

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 388
By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sandra R. "Sandy"
Daigneau-Heath of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Sandy Heath; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Heath was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Heath served with acumen, compassion and great ability as Mental Health Program Director, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (DMHDD), in which position she earned the respect of her peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Heath attended Akron University in Akron, Ohio from 1960-63, majoring in History and Political Science and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science from Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio in 1974; after moving to Tennessee, she earned a Master of Science degree in Psychology and Human Development from George Peabody College in 1976 and over the next two decades completed course work for teacher certification at the University of Tennessee and completed courses in public administration and accounting; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Heath was employed as a Social Worker in Brush High School in Cleveland, Ohio in 1974-75; after moving to Tennessee, she was a Liaison Teacher Counselor at Cumberland House High School of Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute of the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and was promoted to Director of Liaison Services, where she served from 1979-81; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Sandy Heath accepted the position of Director of Classification for Youth Services in the Tennessee Department of Correction, serving there until 1986; in 1988, she became the Community Relations Specialist for Cumberland Hall Psychiatric Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Heath returned to DMHDD in 1989, quickly ascending to the position of Director, System of Care Development in the Department's Mental Health Division and Principal Investigator for *Nashville Connection*; throughout her career at DMHDD, and in her earlier positions, Sandy Heath's skills as a clinician, case manager and administrator were superlative, and her care and compassion for those she served were a fitting match for her professional competence; and

WHEREAS, in her work, Mrs. Heath was committed to the principles of family involvement, interagency collaboration and coordination, individualized treatment and system accountability; she was an effective advocate for children with serious emotional disturbances (SED) and their families and was instrumental in the design and securing of a 7.25 million dollar grant project entitled *Nashville Connection, A System of Care for Children with SED and Their Families*; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Heath was a dedicated proponent of system of care in Davidson County and was instrumental in the planning and development of systems of care throughout Tennessee, readily lending her expertise in grant writing, knowledge of system of care and devotion to making children with serious emotional disturbances and their families' lives better; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to her family, Mrs. Heath always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; she enjoyed the loving companionship of Arthur Heath and was the proud parent of Stephen C. Kinney and his wife, Sharon, and Shannon R. Wright and her husband, Shawn, and the doting grandmother of Stephen II, Madeleine, Jocelyn, James, and Henry; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Heath was preceded in death by her son, Jason Harold Kinney, and will also be missed by her brothers and sister, her co-workers and her many friends; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Heath leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Sandra R. Daigneau-Heath, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character, her dedicated care and compassion for those in need, and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Heath.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.